Translated by Felicia Sumali
Lettered by YKS Services, LLC
Edited by Jordan Reynolds
MEDIA DO Co. Ltd. / YKS Services LLC / SKY Japan, INC.

SCENE 8, AIRI HIMEKAWA'S VERBAL ATTACK

AKA AKASAKA x MENGO YOKOYARI

【推しの子】

OSHI NO KO

CHAPTER 141
CHAIN

HIKARU SAID,

"BECAUSE IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO."

HE'S STILL A CHILD, YOU KNOW?

HE'S AT THE AGE WHERE HE'S TRYING TO FIGURE OUT...

WHAT'S RIGHT AND WHAT'S WRONG,

BUT YOU FORCED HIM TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY.

SHOULDN'T ADULTS BE THE ONES...

EMPATHIZING WITH CHILDREN FOR THEIR IGNORANCE?

IF ADULTS DON'T PROTECT CHILDREN,

WHAT CAN ANYONE DO ABOUT IT?

YOU'RE...

...NOTHING BUT A SEX OFFENDER.

WHY SHOULD I BE THE ONLY ONE TO BLAME?

WHAT THE HELL...?

I'VE LIVED MY LIFE EXPERIENC-ING THE SAME THINGS, YOU KNOW?!

I TAKE EVERY-THING, GOOD OR FILTHY...

...IN THIS ENTER-TAINMENT WORLD.

THEY KEEP TELLING ME THAT IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

I BELIEVED THEM AND MADE IT THIS FAR!

WHY SHOULD I BE THE ONLY ONE EXPLOITED BY MEN?!

I REALLY LOVE HIKARU...

...AND HAVE BEEN KIND TO HIM.

HIS EXPERI-ENCE...

IS A HUNDRED TIMES BETTER THAN MINE.

MAKING A MOVE ON CHILDREN IS OUT OF THE QUESTION, THOUGH.

IS THIS... WHAT THEY CALL A NEGATIVE CHAIN RE-ACTION?

...NEVER HAPPEN.

IT SHOULD...

IF YOUR DIGNITY IS TAKEN AWAY THROUGH SEX, YOU CAN ONLY GET IT BACK THROUGH SEX.

MANY PEOPLE THINK THAT...

THERE ARE MANY CASES WHERE VICTIMS TURN INTO OFFEND-ERS DUE TO SEX PROB-LEMS.

THERE WAS A TIME WHEN FAMOUS ACTRESSES...

BECAME THE MISTRESSES OF GANG LEADERS.

IN THE SECOND HALF OF SHOWA*, THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY AND CRIME SYNDICATES WERE DEEPLY CONNECTED.

IN THE END, THIS INDUSTRY IS INSEPARABLE FROM THAT KIND OF THING.

*The era of Japanese history that runs from 1926 to 1989.

IT WAS THE SAME...

TWENTY YEARS AGO, WHEN AIRI HIMEKAWA WAS STILL ACTIVE.

THERE WERE MANY AGENCIES THAT INVITED YOUNG, CLUELESS CELEBRITIES...

...WHETHER THEY WERE MINORS OR NOT, TO DRINK WITH IMPORTANT PEOPLE...

...AND ENCOURAGED THEM TO USE WOMEN FOR BUSINESS.

I HEARD IT WAS REALLY MESSED UP BACK THEN.

BUT NOW, WE LIVE IN A BETTER ERA WITH FEWER AGENCIES LIKE THAT.

YEAH, YEAH.

IT'S NICE THAT ALL WE HAVE TO DO NOW IS RUSH OVER AND *PLAY HOSTESS* WITH OLD MEN...

...WHEN THE PRODUCER CALLS, EVEN IF IT'S LATE AT NIGHT, RIGHT?

HUH...?

YOU CALL THAT IMPROVE-MENT?

IN THE END, THE PEOPLE WHO LIVED IN THAT ERA...

ARE DOING THE SAME TO THE NEXT GENERATION.

EVEN NOW, INFLUENTIAL MEN STILL MAKE YOUNG WOMEN GATHER AROUND.

THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IS THAT THE INDIVIDUALS ARE NOW DOING WHAT AGENCIES USED TO DO.

Every-thing will be fine.

...NEXT TO INFLUEN-TIAL OLD MEN,

THEY'LL SEAT YOUNG WOMEN WHO DON'T KNOW ANY BETTER...

TELLING THEM THAT THIS IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO...

...OR THAT THEIR SUCCESS DEPENDS ON THEIR EFFORTS.

WHEN I WAS STILL ACTIVE, I WAS ALSO INVITED TO DRINKING PARTIES I WAS CLUELESS ABOUT, LIKE EVERY NIGHT.

THEY'D JUST ASK ME TO COME BECAUSE THERE WERE SOME POWER-FUL FIGURES THERE.

IN REALITY, ALL THEY DID WAS MIX NIGHT WORKERS AND CELEBRITIES TOGETHER, YOU COULDN'T EVEN TELL THEM APART.

A PLACE WHERE SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND PHYSICAL CONTACT WERE THE NORM.

GRIP

SMOOCH

GEH...

HEY!!

THERE WERE EVEN TIMES WHEN I FELT LIKE THEY WERE GOING TO KISS ME OUT OF THE BLUE.

THE MORE EARNEST A GIRL IS, THE MORE SHE GETS TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF.

SOME OF THEM ARE WORRIED THAT IF THEY REFUSE, THEIR JOBS WILL BE CUT SHORT,

WHILE OTHERS ARE TRYING TO HOLD BACK AND FULFILL THE MAN'S LUSTS AS MUCH AS THEY CAN.

TREATING YOUNG WOMEN LIKE HOSTESSES AND FORCING THEM TO POUR DRINKS FOR THEIR BOSS...

ISN'T UNIQUE TO THIS INDUS-TRY, THOUGH.

THEY'VE CONTINUED TO DEPRIVE WOMEN OF THEIR RIGHT TO REFUSE...

Young girls should be the ones pouring drinks.

...BY INSTILLING IN THEM THE IDEA...

THAT SOMETHING THAT SHOULDN'T HAPPEN IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY IS MORE THAN JUST WICKED...

IN THE ENTERTAINMENT WORLD WHERE LOOKISM IS AT PEAK,

WHERE SEX AND BEAUTY ARE GOODS FOR SALE,

WHERE EVEN THE ABILITY TO SAY "NO" IS TAKEN AWAY...

Sign: Beauty Pageant

JUST HOW FAR...

...CAN A PERSON BE RIGHT?

THEY STILL HAVE TO BE RIGHT, OR ELSE THEY'RE DONE FOR.

I LOST BOTH MY MOTHER AND FATHER...

...BECAUSE OF THAT.

...

THAT BEING SAID, YOU LIKE BARS AND NIGHT-CLUBS.

DON'T TELL HIM THAT...

ジ――ッ

STARE

DON'T BRING ME INTO THIS.

THERE ARE *NIGHTS WHEN THEY JUST WANT GIRLS TO SMILE AT THEM!!*

RIGHT, AQUA?!

MODERN PEOPLE HAVE HOLES IN THEIR HEARTS THAT CAN ONLY BE FILLED WITH BOOZE, YOU KNOW?!

I BET YOU JUST WANT GIRLS TO THINK WELL OF YOU.

IF ANYTHING, I'M A *DRINKING PARTY COP* WHO MAINTAINS PUBLIC ORDER AT DRINKING PARTIES!

THAT'S WHY I GO TO SUCH PLACES AS SOMEONE WHO *PROTECTS THE GIRLS!*

DO YOU UNDERSTAND HOW MEN FEEL, HAVING BEEN TAUGHT FROM A YOUNG AGE THAT WE'RE SCUM AND LOSERS?

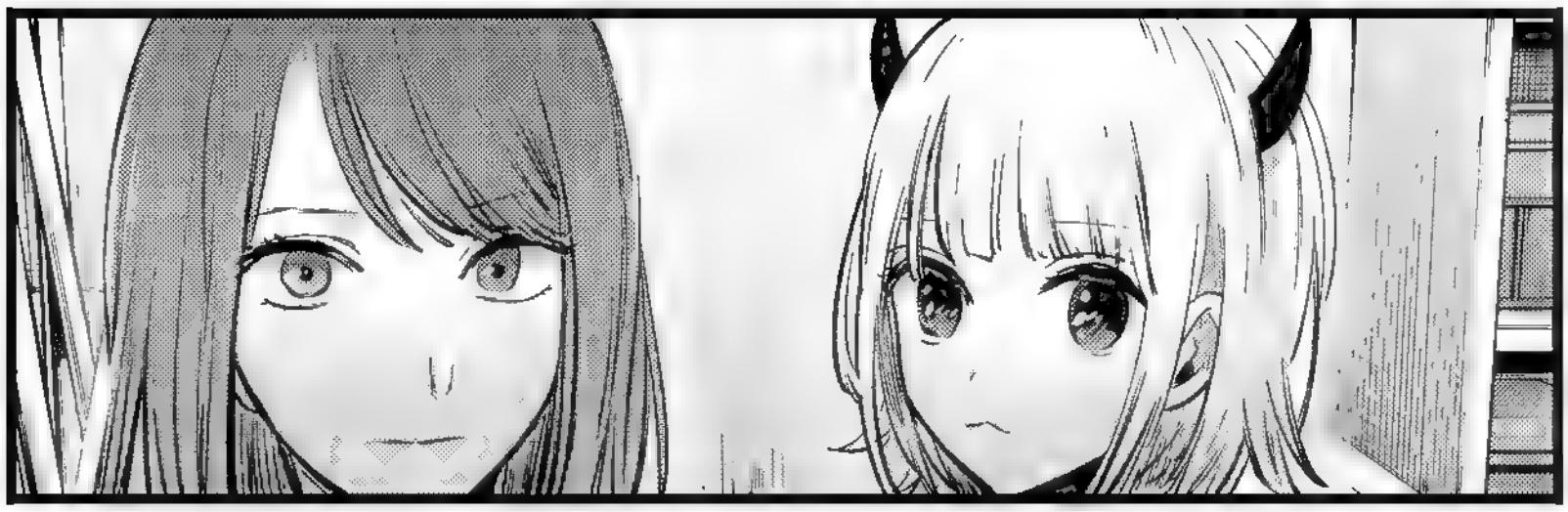
AND I HAVEN'T HEARD MUCH ABOUT THAT WHERE I'VE WORKED OVER THE LAST DECADE, SO I THINK THINGS HAVE GOTTEN A LOT BETTER.

YOU CAN PROTECT YOURSELF BY NOT GOING TO DRINKING PARTIES IF YOU'RE INVITED BY SUSPICIOUS PEOPLE,

WELL, IN THIS DAY AND AGE,

BUT STILL,

THERE'S DARKNESS DEEP WITHIN THIS WORLD.



JUST DON'T FORGET THAT.

SLIDE

GOOD JOB, GIRLS.

!!

WHOA, YOU SCARED US!

I THOUGHT A *SLUT* HAD ENTERED OUR ROOM!

I'M WEARING PASTIES.

YOU'RE SO COM-FORTABLE WITH SEX SCENES, HUH?

WELL, I TOLD THEM I WANTED TO HONOR REALITY.

ARE YOU REALLY OKAY WITH SHOWING SO MUCH SKIN?

YEP.

I'LL STRIP IF I MUST.

I WANT TO PUT MORE EFFORT INTO ACTING IN THE FUTURE...

...

AND I WAS THINKING OF DOING IT WHEN I GREW UP, ANYWAY.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO EMPHASIZE THAT YOU CAN DO ANYTHING FOR THE SAKE OF ACTING.

YOU'RE REALLY GIVING YOUR ALL, HUH?

へえ～？

Whoa...!

SO ARE YOU. RIGHT, RUBY?

IT'S ALMOST TIME...

...FOR YOUR KISSING SCENE WITH AQUA.

YOU GUYS ARE SIBLINGS,

BUT YOU'RE WILLING TO GO THAT FAR. I'M AMAZED.

GU